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Economic and Social Council

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Economic Commission for Europe

Executive Committee

Decision approving the programme of work for the Environment subprogramme for the biennium 2014-2015 and the establishment, mandate and terms of reference of the Group of Friends of the Shared Environmental Information System (SEIS)

The Executive Committee, at its sixty-sixth meeting on 6 February 2014, approved the following:

a. Programme of work for 2014-2015 as contained in Annex I.

b. Establishment of the Group of Friends of SEIS, its mandate and its terms of reference (contained in Annex II) and financial requirements (contained in Annex III).

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Annex I

Programme of work of the Environment subprogramme for the biennium 2014–2015

Introduction

1. The present document sets out the programme of work of the Environment subprogramme for 2014–2015. The Committee on Environmental Policy (CEP) is invited to consider the programme of work and to adopt it at its nineteenth session. It will then be submitted to the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) Executive Committee for formal approval. CEP will have the opportunity to adjust its programme of work during the course of the biennium and such adjustments will be reflected in a separate document.

2. The programme of work applies a results-based approach. It comprises, for each cluster of activities, an expected accomplishment and a list of outputs/activities proposed to be carried out in 2014–2015. The delivery of these outputs/activities is expected to contribute to achieving the expected results.

3. The grouping of activities into clusters is exactly the same as used by CEP for the biennial evaluation of its subprogramme performance. The correlation between the ECE strategic framework for the period 2014–2015 (A/67/6 (Prog. 17)) and the cluster framework used for subprogramme biennial evaluation for 2014–2015 is shown in document ECE/CEP/2013/4.

4. Furthermore, the outputs/activities listed in this document correspond with the ECE proposed programme budget for 2014–2015 (A/68/6 (Sect. 20)) and are complemented by additional items to reflect the more recent developments and needs of ECE member States. For easy reference, such new outputs/activities have been clearly indicated as "additional".

5. The outputs/activities have been listed under the cluster of activities to which they belong according to the following main categories: (a) meetings and related parliamentary documentation; (b) publications and other information material; and (c) technical cooperation, including, seminars, workshops, training sessions and advisory services.

6. The relevant indicators of achievement, together with baseline and target data against which performance will be measured, are presented in document ECE/CEP/2013/4 to assist CEP in assessing whether all the necessary outputs to achieve the expected results have been included in the plan.

7. The annex to the present document lists the overall ECE legislative mandates and those specific to the Environment subprogramme.

8. The governing bodies of the ECE multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs), as well as of the ECE Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development (Strategy for ESD) and of the Transport, Health and Environment Pan-European Programme (THE PEP), guide the activities under these respective areas of work in the Environment subprogramme. These activities are reflected in the programme of work developed and adopted under each of these governing bodies.

9. In this context, it should be noted that the information presented in section II of the present document was forecasted in October 2012 with a view to being presented by the Secretary-General to the United Nations General Assembly for approval in due time before the commencement of the 2014–2015 biennium. Therefore, many of these activities need to be adjusted and relevant revisions are indicated in footnotes throughout section II. For each

of the ECE MEAs, as well as for THE PEP and education for sustainable development (ESD) processes, the relevant governing body is responsible for such adjustments, whereas CEP is responsible for adjusting all other activities.

10. The activities carried out by the Environment subprogramme related to the Environment and Health Process and to the Environment and Security Initiative are not reflected in this document, given that ECE is neither the lead organization nor the secretariat for these processes.[1]

11. The Environment subprogramme is expected to achieve its objective and expected accomplishments on the assumption that, at the national, regional and local levels, there is:

(a) Political will and sufficient capacity to integrate environmental concerns in policy formulation and to implement national legislation, taking into account the ECE environmental legal agreements;

(b) Sufficient awareness of environmental issues and active support of the public in the implementation of national and regional policies.

I. Objective and strategy

12. The objective of the Environment subprogramme is to safeguard the environment and human health, improve environmental management throughout the region and further promote integration of environmental policies into sectoral policies and of environmental concerns into the economy.

13. The responsibility for the subprogramme is vested in the Environment Division. In line with its objective, the subprogramme will emphasize a country needs-based approach in carrying out its activities. It will focus on building the capacity of the countries of Eastern and South-Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia in environmental policy and management, including for the effective implementation of environmental legislation.

14. The subprogramme will continue to conduct environmental performance reviews (EPRs) and assist countries to implement the recommendations of their national EPRs. Furthermore, it will monitor the impact of such recommendations on policy formulation and implementation. The subprogramme will also assist in building capacity for environmental observation and reporting, which will contribute to providing timely and accurate environmental data to improve monitoring and assessment in these countries. The ECE Guidelines for the Application of Environmental Indicators in Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia,[2] currently being revised and updated, will be further promoted for use by ECE member States for environmental monitoring and assessment.

15. While taking into account the Millennium Development Goals, the subprogramme will further promote sustainable development in the ECE region and the implementation of the outcomes of regional environment and sustainable development conferences, in particular the outcomes of the Seventh "Environment for Europe" (EfE) Ministerial Conference (Astana, 2011).

16. Actions will be taken to further integrate environmental issues into other sectoral policies through intersectoral programmes and projects, including ESD, THE PEP and water and health. Particular attention will be given to activities in the field of green economy. ECE will also improve cross-border environmental security in cooperation with

[1] These activities are included under the lead organizations.

[2] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.07.II.E.9, Part One.

other regional and international organizations. Cross-sectoral work will also include the promotion of synergies and cooperation between the ECE MEAs.

17. Emphasis will be placed on supporting the implementation of regional and subregional agreements and action programmes, as well as multi-stakeholder processes and partnerships resulting from, inter alia, the World Summit on Sustainable Development, the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20 Conference) and the work of the Commission on Sustainable Development.

II. Outputs/activities to be delivered in the 2014–2015 biennium

Cluster 1
Improved response to environmental challenges

Description of cluster	*Expected accomplishments from this cluster*
This cluster includes outputs/activities from all other clusters, as appropriate, and therefore does not include specific outputs/activities. They may relate to the follow up to the Rio+20 Conference	Improved response to environmental challenges in the ECE region by ECE constituencies

Cluster 2
Activities under the "Environment for Europe" process

Description of cluster	*Expected accomplishments from this cluster*
Supporting countries' efforts to advance in environmental governance by providing an effective high-level platform for stakeholders to discuss, decide on and join in efforts addressing environmental priorities across the 56 countries of the ECE region, as well as by supporting the countries of Eastern and South-Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia in their efforts to raise environmental standards and comply with international commitments	Successful implementation of the reform of the EfE process

Outputs/activities

(a) Meetings and related parliamentary documentation

2.1 Annual sessions of CEP (16 half days)[1]

2.2 Meetings of CEP Bureau (2 half days)

2.3 Reports of CEP (2)

[1] Sixteen half days (here two four-day meetings).

2.4 Documents for CEP (6)

2.5 Report of CEP Bureau (1)

2.6 The Eighth EfE Ministerial Conference (5 half days)[4]

2.7 Report of the Eighth EfE Ministerial Conference (1)[4]

2.8 Documents for the Eighth EfE Ministerial Conference (3)[4]

(b) Publications and other information material

2.9 Annual sets of press releases to be issued on the occasion of meetings, forums and the issuance of publications (2)[5]

2.10 Maintenance of the website providing meeting documents, excerpts of publications and information on activities related to the subprogramme (2)[6]

Cluster 3
Follow-up to the World Summit on Sustainable Development[7]

Description of cluster	*Expected accomplishments from this cluster*
	Successful review of progress in the implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development outcomes and Agenda 21 within the biennial implementation cycle of the Commission for Sustainable Development (CSD)

Outputs/activities

(a) Meetings and related parliamentary documentation

3.1 Regional Implementation Forum on Sustainable Development (4 half days)

3.2 Reports of the Regional Implementation Forum on Sustainable Development (1)

3.3 Documents for the Regional Implementation Forum on Sustainable Development (3)

[4] However, the CEP Bureau recommended that CEP organize the Eighth EfE Ministerial Conference in 2016 (ECE/CEP/2013/22), including preparing relevant documents.

[5] Two sets of press releases were forecasted (one set per year) covering the activities of the entire subprogramme.

[6] Includes maintenance of the website (one per year) for the activities of the entire subprogramme.

[7] This cluster is expected to be discontinued from the Environment subprogramme in the light of decision taken by the Rio+20 Conference to replace CSD by a high-level political forum.

Cluster 4
Education for sustainable development

Description of cluster	*Expected accomplishments from this cluster*
Practical promotion of educator competences, as well as positioning technical and vocational education and training so as to meet the existing and future green skills needs	Enhanced implementation of the ECE Strategy for ESD at the national level

Outputs/activities

(a) Meetings and related parliamentary documentation

4.1 Steering Committee on ESD (8 half days)

4.2 Bureau of the Steering Committee on ESD (2 half days)

4.3 Reports of the Steering Committee on ESD (2)

(b) Publications and other information material

4.4 Ten-year ECE strategy for ESD: good practices and lessons learned (1)

(c) Technical cooperation

4.5 Workshops on the implementation of the Strategy for ESD (4)

Cluster 5
Transport, health and environment

Description of cluster	*Expected accomplishments from this cluster*
Practical promotion of an integrated policy approach to green and health-friendly mobility with an emphasis on urban areas	Enhanced integration between transport, health and environment policies through exchanging experiences, good practice and capacity-building with a special focus on Eastern and South-Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia

Outputs/activities

(a) Meetings and related parliamentary documentation

5.1 Annual session of THE PEP Steering Committee (3 half days)

5.2 High-level Meeting on Transport, Health and Environment (6 half days)

5.3 Report of THE PEP Steering Committee (1)

5.4 Documents for THE PEP Steering Committee (6)

(b) Publications and other information material

5.5 Paris Outcome of the High-level Meeting on Transport, Health and Environment (2)

5.6 Booklet containing a Compendium of Best Practices on Safe and Healthy Walking and Cycling in Urban Areas (1)

(c) Technical cooperation

5.7 Workshops on integrated policy approaches to sustainable transport under THE PEP (4)

5.8 Capacity-building on policies and measures to support safe and healthy walking and cycling in Eastern and South-Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia under THE PEP (1)

Cluster 6
Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution

Description of cluster	*Expected accomplishments from this cluster*
Promotion of ratification and improved implementation of the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution (Air Convention) and its protocols through raising its political profile and awareness among decision makers on the environmental and health effects of air pollution and pollution abatement measures, as well as through an increased cooperation and information exchange between countries	Increased ratification and strengthened implementation of the Air Convention and its three most recent protocols (the Protocol on Heavy Metals, the Protocol on Persistent Organic Pollutants and the Protocol to Abate Acidification, Eutrophication and Ground-level Ozone (Gothenburg Protocol)) by ECE member States, in particular countries of Eastern and South-Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia

Outputs/activities

(a) Meetings and related parliamentary documentation

6.1 Sessions of the Executive Body for the Air Convention (18 half days)

6.2 Steering Body to the Cooperative Programme for Monitoring of the Long-range Transmission of Air Pollutants in Europe (EMEP) (12 half days)

6.3 Working Group on Effects (8 half days)

6.4 Working Group on Strategies and Review (18 half days)

6.5 Reports of the Executive Body (2)

6.6 Reports of the EMEP Steering Body (2)

6.7 Reports of the Working Group on Effects (2)

6.8 Reports of the Working Group on Strategies and Review (2)

6.9 Documents under the Air Convention (25)

(b) Publications and other information material

6.10 Air Pollution Studies Series (1)

6.11 Strategies and Policies: summary of the review of the Air Convention (1)

(c) Technical cooperation

6.12 Workshops on the implementation of the Air Convention (5)

Cluster 7

Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters

Description of cluster	*Expected accomplishments from this cluster*
Implementation of the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (Aarhus Convention) and its Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers (Protocol on PRTRs)	Increased ratification and strengthened implementation of the Aarhus Convention and its Protocol on PRTRs

Outputs/activities

(a) Meetings and related parliamentary documentation

7.1 Meeting of the Parties to the Aarhus Convention (6 half days)

7.2 Working Group of the Parties to the Aarhus Convention (14 half days)

7.3 Compliance Committee under the Aarhus Convention (64 half days)

7.4 Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on PRTRs (6 half days)

7.5 Working Group on PRTRs (8 half days)

7.6 Compliance Committee under the Protocol on PRTRs (10 half days)

7.7 Report of the Meeting of the Parties to the Aarhus Convention (1)

7.8 Reports of the Working Group of the Parties to the Aarhus Convention (3)

7.9 Reports of the Compliance Committee under the Aarhus Convention (8)

7.10 Documents under the Aarhus Convention (20)

7.11 Report of the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on PRTRs (1)

7.12 Reports of the Working Group of the Parties to the Protocol on PRTRs (2)

7.13 Reports of the Compliance Committee under the Protocol on PRTRs (2)

7.14 Documents under the Protocol on PRTRs (20)

(b) Publications and other information material

7.15 Recommendations on public participation under the Aarhus Convention and the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment (1)[a]

7.16 Guidance on the Protocol on PRTRs (1)

[a] Joint publication with the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context.

Cluster 8

Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context

Description of cluster	*Expected accomplishments from this cluster*
Implementation of the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Espoo Convention) and its Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment (Protocol on SEA)	Increased ratification and strengthened implementation of the Espoo Convention and its Protocol on SEA

Outputs/activities

(a) Meetings and related parliamentary documentation

8.1 Meeting of the Parties to the Espoo Convention (7 half days)

8.2 Meeting of the Parties to the Espoo Convention serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on SEA (7 half days)

8.3 Working Group on Environmental Impact Assessment and Strategic Environmental Assessment (Working Group on EIA and SEA) (6 half days)

8.4 Implementation Committee under the Espoo Convention and the Protocol on SEA (24 half days)

8.5 Report of the Meeting of the Parties to the Espoo Convention (1)

8.6 Report of the Meeting of the Parties to the Espoo Convention serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on SEA (1)

8.7 Report of the Working Group on EIA and SEA (1)

8.8 Reports of the Implementation Committee under the Espoo Convention and the Protocol on SEA (4)

8.9 Documents under the Espoo Convention (10)

(b) Publications and other information material

8.10 Reissue of the Protocol on SEA (1)

8.11 Guidance on application of the Espoo Convention and its Protocol on SEA to nuclear energy-related activities (1)

(c) Technical cooperation

8.12 Subregional workshops promoting the implementation of the Espoo Convention and its Protocol on SEA (5)

Cluster 9

Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes

Description of cluster	*Expected accomplishments from this cluster*
Implementation of the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (Water Convention) and its Protocol on Water and Health	Increased ratification and strengthened implementation of the Water Convention and the Protocol on Water and Health

Outputs/activities

(a) Meetings and related parliamentary documentation

9.1 Meeting of the Parties to the Water Convention (6 half days)

9.2 Working Group on Integrated Water Resources Management (8 half days)

9.3 Working Group on Monitoring and Assessment (8 half days)[9]

9.4 Legal Board under the Water Convention (6 half days)[9]

9.5 Implementation Committee under the Water Convention (16 half days)

9.6 Working Group on Water and Health (8 half days)

9.7 Compliance Committee under the Protocol on Water and Health (12 half days)

9.8 Report of the Meeting of the Parties to the Water Convention (1)

9.9 Reports of the Working Group on Integrated Water Resources Management (2)

9.10 Reports of the Working Group on Monitoring and Assessment (2)[9]

9.11 Reports of the Implementation Committee under the Water Convention (4)

9.12 Documents under the Water Convention (8)

9.13 Reports of the Working Group on Water and Health (2)

9.14 Documents under the Protocol on Water and Health (8)

(b) Publications and other information material

9.15 Water-food-energy-ecosystems nexus: assessment in the transboundary context (1)

9.16 Benefits of transboundary cooperation (1)

9.17 Adapting to climate change in transboundary basins: good practices and recommendations (1)

[9] In adopting the programme of work 2013–2015 (ECE/MP.WAT/37/Add.1), the Meeting of the Parties to the Water Convention decided that the subsidiary body would only meet during the period 2013–2015 if need arises.

(c) Technical cooperation

9.18 Workshops on water and health (3)[10]

9.19 Workshops on the management of transboundary waters (3)

9.20 Workshops on the management of transboundary waters (9 additional)[11]

Cluster 10
Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents

Description of cluster	*Expected accomplishments from this cluster*
Promotion of industrial safety as a means to protect human beings and environment from consequences of industrial accidents, in particular those with possible transboundary effects	Strengthened implementation of the Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents (Industrial Accidents Convention)

Outputs/activities

(a) Meetings and related parliamentary documentation

10.1 Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Industrial Accidents Convention (5 half days)

10.2 Working Group on Implementation under the Industrial Accidents Convention (9 half days)

10.3 Working Group on the Development of the Industrial Accidents Convention (2 half days)

10.4 Consultation meeting for points of contact under the Industrial Accidents Convention (3 half days)

10.5 Joint expert group on water and industrial accidents (4 half days)

10.6 Report of the Conference of the Parties to the Industrial Accidents Convention (1)

10.7 Report on the implementation of the Industrial Accidents Convention (1)

10.8 Documents under the Industrial Accidents Convention (12)

[10] Additional workshops on water and health may be decided by the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Water and Health when it holds its third session (25–27 November 2013) and adopts a programme of work for 2014–2016. The draft programme, considered by the Working Group on Water and Health (3–4 July 2013), foresees a larger number of workshops.

[11] In adopting the programme of work 2013–2015 (ECE/MP.WAT/37/Add.1), the Meeting of the Parties to the Water Convention foresaw that altogether 12 workshops on the management of transboundary waters would be organized in the biennium.

(b) Publications and other information material

10.9 Reissue of the Industrial Accidents Convention, with revised annex (1)

10.10 Guidelines on transboundary hazards and risks of industrial accidents, and on public participation in and land-use planning for decision-making on industrial installations (1)

(c) Technical cooperation

10.11 Workshops on the implementation of the Industrial Accidents Convention (5)

Cluster 11
Environmental monitoring and assessment

Description of cluster	*Expected accomplishments from this cluster*
Development of the Shared Environmental Information System (SEIS) across the region and promotion of indicator-based assessments	Strengthened national capacity for environmental monitoring and assessment systems in the countries of Eastern and South-Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia

Outputs/activities

(a) Meetings and related parliamentary documentation

11.1 Working Group on Environmental Monitoring and Assessment (14 half days)

11.2 Joint Task Force on Environmental Indicators (10 half days)

11.3 Reports of the Working Group on Environmental Monitoring and Assessment (4)

11.4 Documents for the Working Group on Environmental Monitoring and Assessment (6)

11.5 Reports of the Joint Task Force on Environmental Indicators (4)

11.6 Documents for the Joint Task Force on Environmental Indicators (12)

(b) Publications and other information material

11.7 Guidelines on monitoring biodiversity and soil contamination (1)

Cluster 12
Environmental performance reviews

Description of cluster	*Expected accomplishments from this cluster*
	Improved environmental performance in countries with economies in transition

Outputs/activities

(a) Meetings and related parliamentary documentation

12.1 Expert Group on Environmental Performance Review (12 half days)

(b) Publications and other information material

12.2 Environmental performance reviews of specific member countries (4)

Legislative mandates

A. Overall Economic Commission for Europe legislative mandates

1. Resolutions of the General Assembly

Resolution No.	*Title*
55/2	United Nations Millennium Declaration
57/144	Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit
57/253	World Summit on Sustainable Development
57/270 B	Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields
60/1	2005 World Summit Outcome
61/16	Strengthening of the Economic and Social Council
61/210	Integration of the economies in transition into the world economy
62/208	Triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system
63/281	Climate change and its possible security implications
64/141	Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly
64/210	Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence
64/217	Women in development
64/236	Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development
66/288	Implementation of the Rio+20 outcome document "The Future We Want"

2. Resolutions and decisions of the Economic and Social Council

Resolution/ decision No.	*Title*
1997/224	Declaration on the Strengthening of Economic Cooperation in Europe and Plan of Action
1998/46	Further measures for the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields

Resolution/ decision No.	*Title*
2006/14	Progress in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 59/250 on the triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system
2006/38	Workplan on reform of the Economic Commission for Europe and revised terms of reference of the Commission
2009/12	Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system
2009/28	The role of the United Nations system in implementing the ministerial declaration on the internationally agreed goals and commitments in regard to sustainable development adopted at the high-level segment of the 2008 substantive session of the Economic and Social Council
2009/29	Role of the Economic and Social Council in the integrated and coordinated implementation of the outcomes of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits, in light of relevant General Assembly resolutions, including resolution 61/16

3. Decisions of the Economic Commission for Europe

Decision No. or document symbol	*Title*
A (64)	The Work of the Economic Commission for Europe
A (65)	The outcome of the 2005 ECE reform

B. Legislative mandates specific to the Environment subprogramme

1. Resolutions of the General Assembly

Resolution No.	*Title*
58/217	International Decade for Action, "Water for Life", 2005–2015
58/219	United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development

2. Resolutions of the Economic and Social Council

Resolution No.	*Title*
2003/61	Future programme, organization and methods of work of the Commission on Sustainable Development
2009/28	The role of the United Nations system in implementing the ministerial declaration on the internationally agreed goals and commitments in regard to sustainable development adopted at the high-level segment of the substantive session of the Economic and Social Council in 2008

3. Decisions of the "Environment for Europe" Ministerial Conferences and other processes

Document symbol	*Title*
ECE/CEP/94/Rev.1	Kyiv Ministerial Declaration, 2003
ECE/BELGRADE.CONF/2007/8	Belgrade Ministerial Declaration "Building Bridges to the Future", 2007
ECE/CEP/S/152 and Corr.1, annex I E/ECE/1453, chapter IV	Reform Plan of the "Environment for Europe" process adopted by the Committee on Environmental Policy and endorsed by the Economic Commission for Europe at its sixty-third session, 2009
ECE/ASTANA.CONF/2011/2/Add.1	Astana Ministerial Declaration "Save water, grow green!", 2011
ECE/AC.21/2002/8	Declaration on the establishment of a Transport, Health and Environment Pan-European Programme (THE PEP) adopted by the Second High-level Meeting on Transport, Health and Environment, 2002
CEP/AC.13/2005/3/Rev.1	UNECE Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development adopted by the High-Level Meeting of Environment and Education Ministries, 2005
CEP/AC.13/2005/4/Rev.1	Vilnius Framework for the implementation of the UNECE Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development adopted by the High-Level Meeting of Environment and Education Ministries, 2005
ECE/AC.21/2009/2	Report of the High-level Meeting on Transport, Health and Environment on its third session (includes the Amsterdam Declaration and work plan 2009–2014), 2009

4. Recent decisions on the Economic Commission for Europe multilateral environmental agreements contained in the reports of their governing bodies

Document symbol	*Title*
ECE/EB.AIR/113 and addenda	Report of the Executive Body on its thirty-first session
ECE/EB.AIR/111 and addenda	Report of the Executive Body on its thirtieth session
ECE/EB.AIR/109 and addenda	Report of the Executive Body on its twenty-ninth session
ECE/EB.AIR/106 and addenda	Report of the Executive Body on its twenty-eighth session

Document symbol	*Title*
ECE/EB.AIR/99 and addenda	Report of the Executive Body on its twenty-seventh session
ECE/EB.AIR/96 and addenda	Report of the Executive Body on its twenty-sixth session
ECE/MP.PRTR/2010/2 and Add.1	Report of the first session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers
ECE/MP.PP/2011/2 and addenda	Report of the fourth session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Aarhus Convention
ECE/MP.EIA/15	Report of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context on its fifth session
ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/2	Report of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment on its first session
ECE/CP.TEIA/24	Report of the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents
ECE/MP.WAT/37 and addenda	Report of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes on its sixth session
ECE/MP.WH/4 and addenda	Report of the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Water and Health on its second session

Annex II

Mandate and terms of reference of the Group of Friends of the Shared Environmental Information System (SEIS)

1. The Group of Friends of the Shared Environmental Information System (Friends of SEIS) is mandated until the end of 2015 to function as a coordination mechanism for the development of a Shared Environmental Information System (SEIS) across the region in order to keep the pan-European environment under review in a regular process of environmental assessment, as decided by Ministers at the Seventh "Environment for Europe" Ministerial Conference (Astana, 21–23 September 2011). These terms of reference define the modalities of the Group of Friends of SEIS.

2. The main purpose of this mechanism is to provide a platform for the exchange of information about ongoing and planned activities relevant to SEIS development, and to build synergies among and join the efforts of the main interested stakeholders.

3. Friends of SEIS will be led by the Chair of the Committee on Environmental Policy (CEP). The following bodies and organizations are invited to nominate members to the Group:

(a) The CEP Bureau;

(b) The Bureau of the Working Group on Environmental Monitoring and Assessment;

(c) Governing or subsidiary bodies of relevant United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) multilateral environmental agreements;

(d) The European Commission;

(e) The European Environment Agency;

(f) The United Nations Environment Programme;

(g) The World Health Organization Regional Office for Europe;

(h) The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development;

(i) The Regional Environmental Centres;

(j) The European ECO Forum.

ECE member States are invited to nominate their members to the Group, based on a balanced geographical representation. All countries of Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia are strongly encouraged to nominate their members to the Group. The CEP Chair may decide to invite representatives of other bodies and organizations, as necessary.

4. Friends of SEIS will meet when necessary (once a year on average). Preferably, the Group's meetings will be organized back-to-back with meetings of other bodies (e.g. CEP, the CEP Bureau, the Working Group on Environmental Monitoring and Assessment). The Group shall keep its meetings to the minimum necessary and shall work as much as possible by electronic means (e.g. e-mail, teleconference).

5. At its first meeting, Friends of SEIS will agree on a work plan with concrete and results-oriented activities. Such a plan shall take into account SEIS-related developments, including, among others, the SEIS-related documents submitted to the nineteenth session of CEP (ECE/CEP/2013/13, ECE/CEP/2013/15 and ECE/CEP/2013/18). Specifically, Friends

of SEIS should aim to provide answers to the following two questions to the twentieth session of CEP in 2014:

(a) How should progress be monitored and evaluated: what should be the clear targets and performance indicators for the development of SEIS?;

(b) How should the regular assessment process be organized and shaped, taking into consideration the benefits of SEIS?

6. Friends of SEIS will be serviced by the ECE secretariat. Conference facilities at the United Nations Office at Geneva will be provided for the meetings of Friends of SEIS. The working language will be English.

7. Donors will be invited to support the work of Friends of SEIS, including the travel of eligible members, as well as, in case of need, the travel of ECE staff to participate in and support the organization of meetings held outside of Geneva.

8. These terms of reference will cover the biennium 2014–2015. CEP may recommend EXCOM to extend them at its session in late 2015.

9. The Group of Friends of SEIS will regularly inform CEP on the implementation of its mandate.

Annex III

Estimated extrabudgetary resource requirements for the ECE secretariat to support the work of the Group of Friends of SEIS

From January 2014 to November 2015

(in United States dollars; rounded)

Object of expenditure	*Unit*	*Unit cost*	*No. of Units*	*Total*
Travel of eligible members of the group in 2014	member-mission	2,000	15	30,000
Travel of eligible members of the group in 2015	member-mission	2,000	15	30,000
Travel on official business by ECE staff to coordination meetings in 2014	member-mission	2,000	2	4,000
Travel on official business by ECE staff to coordination meetings in 2015	member-mission	2,000	2	4,000
1. Net total				**68,000**
2. Programme support costs (13%)				8,800
3. GRAND TOTAL				**76,800**